

D E C E M B E R 2 0 0 5 - J A N U A R Y 2 0 0 6

Faith
Community
LUTHERAN ELCA

FAITH COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

9775 HWY 66, LONGMONT, CO - SERVICES 8AM & 11AM SUN, 5:30PM SAT
WWW.FAITHCOMMUNITYLUTHERAN.ORG - (303) 776-8771



"Reformation Man"

FCLC is NOT your "typical" Lutheran Church! Steve Mason dressed up as a new Super Hero, "Reformation Man", on Reformation Sunday to teach the FCLC kids an important lesson during the Children's sermon.



✕ Pastor's Perspective ✕

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 1:24 & 25

1) On the "ministry" of encouragement...What a blessing it is for me to serve a congregation that is so encouraging! I've probably never worked so hard in my life as this past year, with so many new families, with Cindy's breast cancer, and with various staff changes. But in the midst of it, there have been so many who have said, "How are YOU doing!?" Furthermore, it's been so encouraging to see so many in the congregation pulling together so beautifully showing an inspiring team effort. Truly you have demonstrated what it means to be the "Body of Christ." Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



2) On our ministry this fall...We have so much to be thankful for this year. I'm sure you've noticed how packed we've been on Sunday mornings. This fall's attendance has been over 520 quite regularly. Furthermore, we give thanks that our giving has gone up proportionately. We took a leap of faith in approving this budget, and clearly God has shown Himself to be faithful in stirring up the generosity of this congregation.

(Continued on Page 2)

Christmas Lutefisk Recipe

Da Recipe for da fish is:
yew tak a oven pahroof dish and smear budder all over da inside. Den yew tak aboutt tre pound fish and lay da fish skin down in

da dish and put salt all over it, about one table spoon. Den yew cover da dish wit foil and put in da oven set at 400 degree for about tirty or forty minutes or until da fish is flaky. Den you pour off da liquid and serve wit

boiled potatas and lefse and melted budder smear.
Uff Da! Is good!



Thanks be to God! But most of all, it's just exciting to see good ministry happening as people are growing in the faith and reaching out to one another in times of need.



On our building expansion...

We need to give our Building Committee a big pat on the back for their outstanding work as we approach the end our construction—probably within the next couple of months. Special thanks to Bob Danos and Bob Thoman, our Building Chairs, and Nanette Goings, Audrey Audley, Bob Kaiser, Mike Cousins, Jeff Bonds, Dave Koehler, Roger Olsen, and Carl Schaal as committee members.

As I've mentioned before, as much as I had hoped that we might have been able to proceed with this

"Phase II" while we were under construction four years ago, I have really come to believe that this is another example of God having a better plan. This expansion is really quite a bit more exciting than our original vision because we've been able to plan in more detail regarding our future needs (high school & middle school youth rooms, computer lab, library, choir rehearsal, etc.) So, we have another example of *"God working for good in all things..."*

On our 2006 planning...

Our annual **Budget Hearing** will be held at **9:05 on Sunday, December 11th** in the sanctuary (followed by Pastor Bruce's class on the book of Revelation). Final approval for the 2006 budget will be solicited at our **Annual Meeting at 9:05 on Sunday, January** in the sanctuary (again followed by Pastor Bruce's class on the book of Revelation). We'd love to have you attend these meetings and give us your feedback regarding our ministry plans.

Once again, we're proposing a 1% increase in our "first-fruits" giving to our Outreach Ministry (to 20%). How long will we be able to do increase this? Only God knows! Perhaps God is using us as an example of how "we're blessed to be a blessing" to others! Thanks so much for all your love and support of our growing ministries.

On our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services...

Once again, we'll be celebrating the birth of the Christ-child at 3:00, 5:00, and 7:00 this year. How exciting it will be to have our third Christmas in our new sanctuary. Christmas is a great time for evangelism -- please invite your friends & neighbors. You may be noticed in the bulletin this past month that we have listed our new Sunday Servant Coordinators who have been doing an outstanding job of scheduling our "Sunday Servants." As you can imagine, we'll need a dedicated "fleet" of "Worship Servants" for our Christmas Eve services. If you'd be willing to help us in any way with these services, it would be a wonderful Christmas "gift." if so, please contact the Sunday Servant Coordinators listed in the bulletin!



***Your partner in ministry,
Pastor Dan***



The View from the Coffee Cup by Pastor Bruce Welander

The other day I was reading a familiar critique of Christianity. It said that, if the Church is to survive, it must change. In too many places, its membership and influence are dwindling.

Therefore, according to this assessment, the Church must adapt itself to modern ideas and downplay things like the cross and sin. After all, how many people today can understand old phrases like “saved by the blood of the lamb?” In short, it’s time to look critically at the core message of Christianity and change it.

What I find particularly fascinating about that analysis is that it appears in a book written almost ninety years ago! It was by Arthur Conan Doyle, who was great as the author of the Sherlock Holmes mysteries, but not so great in his understanding of the mysteries of the Christian faith.

History is replete with people who predicted Christianity’s downfall. But Christianity is not about some *ideas* that we can discuss and modify, to make them more palatable to contemporary ears. Rather, the Church is centered in God’s *actions*, particularly in Jesus Christ. Take away the Lamb of God, born in Bethlehem, crucified and risen from the dead, and you simply have nothing left of Christianity worthy of the name, despite Doyle’s urging that we concentrate instead on the good *life* and *teachings* of Jesus.

In this new season of Advent and Christmas, it is most important to tell the story of Jesus, starting at Bethlehem. As the Apostle John puts it, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” Note that the Word became not simply an “idea,” but “flesh.”

That reminds me... I have sensed the Word’s enfleshment deeply as I have traveled in the lands of the Bible. That’s why I am pleased that a number of people have signed up already for next April’s proposed trip to Biblical sites in Turkey. If a few more persons register soon, the trip will definitely be a “go.” If you would like to learn more about this spiritual pilgrimage, just let me know, please, and I’d be happy to give you further information.

The hand of God has truly touched this world. God has sent his Son to the world. Nothing can ever change that. Thanks be to God.... and do have a joyous Advent and Christmas.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Bruce Welander



Worship Team Corner

“There is Hope, on Bethlehem highway for the ones who will journey there. And the hope is a Child in a manger bringing us love beyond compare.”

In December of 1995 and 1999, I was very pregnant with our younger two sons, Michael and Lukas. The Advent season those years took on such an added sense of wonder, awe and expectation for me personally. As I sang Christmas Carols in church, I could feel the babies move and kick in anticipation of their own arrival. It is a time that I will hold close to my heart forever.

Advent is a time of wonder and anticipation. Christ's birth gives us all hope for tomorrow. This month's theme song, "Bethlehem Highway," that we will sing each week in December speaks to that hope. "It's a lifeline to the needy, it's sight to those who can't see. It's a freedom to the faithful, in a Child of prophecy."

In our world today, we don't have to look far to see hopelessness. In fact, sometimes that is all some of us can focus on! Thank God for Jesus! A Light amidst the darkness! As you journey through this Advent season, my prayer for you is that you see and experience signs of Christ's hope.

As we are nearing the end of 2005, I have to take a moment and thank our Worship Team Leaders Dawn Hajdas, Steve Mason, Blair Wacha and Janelle Olson for their hours of dedication and enthusiasm. If you see them, make sure to give them a squeeze as well and thank them. And on behalf of David, our three crazy boys JD, Michael and Lukas, and myself, we wish you a Blessed Christmas and renewed energy for 2006!

Diane Sell
Worship Team Director

Rehearsal Schedules for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship Teams:

Monday Night, December 19th
Group: The 8am Christmas Day Worship Team
Rehearsal Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Tuesday Night, December 20th
Group: The 3pm Christmas Eve Worship Team
Rehearsal Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Tuesday Night, December 20th
Group: The 11am Christmas Day Worship Team
Rehearsal Time: 7:15 - 8:15 pm

Thursday Night, December 22nd
Group: LOF Worship Team for 5pm Christmas Eve
Rehearsal Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Thursday Night, December 22nd
Group: The 7pm Christmas Eve Worship Team
Rehearsal Time: 7:15 - 8:15 pm



FCLC CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

LOVED BY GOD, Trusting His Promises & Experiencing His Blessings

Join the Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study as they begin this study on January 4, from the best-selling author Liz Curtis Higgs, of *Bad Girls of the Bible* and *Unveiling Mary Magdalene* fame. *Loved By God* is a verse by verse study exploring the lives of Jacob and Esau, Leah and Rachel. And yes, each session will conclude with a DVD segment of Liz's unique and insightful comments on this Bible topic. Study begins on January 4, 9:30-11 am in room 210. Workbooks must be ordered by December 10. Cost is \$10. Contact Nanette to place your order. (nanette@faithcommunitylutheran.org)



Women's Book Tea

If you agree that there's nothing like reading a good book, sipping a cup of tea, and spending the morning with friends, then join us for FCLC's first ever. . . WOMEN'S BOOK TEA! Order your book by December 6. Read the book during the month of December. Sip on tea while discussing what you have read at the BOOK TEA on Friday, January 6, 9-11 am. We will be reading *Eye of the Beholder*, (a Christian suspense novel) by Kathy Herman. Cost of the book is \$10. Contact Nanette to order your book NOW! (nanette@faithcommunitylutheran.org)

Buy your GROCERY CERTIFICATES in December and support Christian Education!

For every \$10 in grocery certificates purchased, you will receive a BIBLE BUCK! No kids to share your bucks? We're sure you can find a child who would LOVE some additional Bible Bucks. . . then again, no one ever said shopping at the Bible Bucks store is just for kids! Next BIBLE BUCKS STORE: December 11, 10:30 am.





Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is Hosting a Medicare Part D Educational Luncheon:

The Thrivent Financial Front Range Group will be hosting an educational luncheon at Faith on Friday, December 2, 2005 at 11:30am. Individuals who are 64 years or older, or others with questions on the new plan are invited to attend. This educational program will cover the new Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan. It is an opportunity to ask questions about these changes and to have lunch. Please RSVP to Thrivent Financial at 303-532-1215. (Workshop will be offered again on January 27, 2006 at Faith Community Lutheran)

DATES TO REMEMBER

DEC 4, 6 PM
P.O.T.S. Bible Study
(Fireside Room)

DEC 25, JAN 1
No Sunday
School

DEC 26, 7 PM
Weavers of the
Cloth Post-
Christmas Party
and Gift Exchange
(Fellowship Hall)

JAN 4, 9:30 AM
Loved By God
Women's Bible
Study begins
(Room 210)

JAN 4, 6 PM
Confirmation
resumes

JAN 6, 9 AM
Women's Book
Tea

JAN 8, 9:30 AM
Sunday School
Resumes

JAN 15, 6 PM
Great Dates Couples'
Bible Study
(Fellowship Hall)

JAN 23, 7 PM
Weavers of the
Cloth Crafts and
Devotion
(Fellowship Hall)

JAN 28, 10 AM
Sunday School
Workshop Leaders'
training meeting
(Room 106)

JAN 29, 6-8 PM
Orientation to
FCLC, Session #1
(Fellowship Hall)

FEB 5, 9:30 AM
Orientation to FCLC,
Session #2 (Fellowship
Hall) Join at 11 am
service, potluck to follow

**Sunday School
memory verse
for December:**
She will give birth to a
son, and you are to give
him the name Jesus,
because he will save his
people from their sins.
Matthew 1:21

**Sunday School
memory verse
for January:**
Jesus said, "I am the light
of the world. The person
who follows me will never
live in darkness. He will
have the light that gives
life." **John 8:12**



Hey all you crafty people and crafter "has beens"! Are you looking for someone to take that #3 and #5 Crochet cotton and embroidery floss off your hands and out of your basement? Look no futher! The Weavers of the Cloth group of FCLC needs them for a craft project at the end of December. Contact Nanette, (nanette@faithcommunitylutheran.org) if you need to arrange for a pick-up or, place it on her desk in the staff office, if you are donating a smaller quantity.

KIC's Dinner Theatre Show

The First Leon

Friday Dec. 9 - Dinner at 6pm

Saturday Dec. 10 - Dessert Only at 3pm



FCLC FINANCES

As of 11/29/05

General Offering YTD	\$ 501,478
Budget YTD	\$ 554,707
Expenses YTD	\$ (503,563)
New Building Giving YTD	\$ 180,540



About FCLC's finances:

- ⌘ YTD Expenses currently exceeds General Offering YTD by \$2,085.
- ⌘ General offering is at 90% of our budget, so at this point, we need to spend less than what we planned for the year.
- ⌘ God continually blesses FCLC through your generous giving.

Mark your calendars for the following:

- ⌘ 2006 Budget Hearing: Sunday, December 11, 2005, 9:05 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ⌘ 2006 Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 8, 2006, 9:05 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Have you remembered Faith Community Lutheran Church in your will or your estate plan, or as your insurance beneficiary? FCLC does have an active Endowment Fund that is overseen by five members of our church who meet on a regular basis to determine where and how this fund is to be invested. ~ Roger Olsen

Nursery News

This past month in the nursery we've been busy! We have new and exciting things going on in the little one's world. One of the first things you may have noticed in the nursery is the new TV mounted to the wall. We received a generous donation for this item some time ago, but I was waiting for the current system to officially crater before I replaced it. The new TV has a built in DVD player, so we need some new DVD's! If you have any around the

house that noone watches anymore, bring them in! Or if you feel like you can purchase new ones for us, please do! The kids love to watch Barney, Sesame Street, Veggie Tales, Baby Einstein, The Wiggles, or any others you think may be appropriate. Thank you in advance! I'd also like to say thank you one more time to the Valarie and Jonathan Jones for being generous enough to donate the funds needed for the new TV.



You also may have noticed the bright pink sign on the door stating "WE NEED VOLUNTEERS." The real truth is... WE DO! The parents that use the nursery are all so wonderful to help out, but we are at a sort of turning point with the age of our children. We have lots of little ones moving up to Sunday School, and lots of their little brothers and sisters moving toward the nursery. All of our parents are working very hard to share their time between Sunday School and the nursery, but we are spread a little thin. We need more of you folks that like kids to jump on board and help fill in the gaps! It is a wonderful opportunity to meet the future youth of the congregation and have the chance to make a positive impact on their first church experiences. Call me if you feel like you can help out! My number is 720-652-0891, or you can email me at mandy@faithcommunitylutheran.org. Thanks! Also, if you have approached me wanting to volunteer and I haven't called you yet, CALL ME! I am blonde, and I have two little ones of my own at home so I'm forgetful sometimes! (Ok, I'll be honest, I'm forgetful ALOT of the time.)

Thirdly, keep checking in to see the forthcoming changes to the nursery decor. We hope to be updating the look of our little world soon with new paint, a new mural, and maybe even some new cabinetry and window treatments! The plan is to start the project in December, so pop in and check on the progress.

Finally, I want to extend a huge, monstrous thank you to all of the parent and youth volunteers!

We really cannot function without your help, so your time commitment to us is truly PRICELESS. We welcome any new volunteers, as well as donations such as snacks (crackers, animal cookies etc.), diapers, wipes, pull-ups, and disposable sippy-cups. Thanks everyone!

~ Mandy Wormke

FCLC Members Travel to New Orleans to Help with Katrina Recovery Efforts



As many of you know, Shaun McMikle, David Droege, Sarah Droege, Duane Sharp, Todd Penson and Tyger Penson went down to New Orleans last week on a Thanksgiving Relief Mission. This was both a rewarding experience and very enlightening. Mike Krantz from our church was the coordinator for Group Publishing, the ones who organized this event.

From the rewarding point of view, we did some incredible works. We were a small advance group of 24, that went to establish contacts and start projects in the area. What we found was unbelievable and very hard to describe. Even though it is three months after Katrina hit, it looks as if the water just receded. Thousands of homes, hundreds of businesses, countless schools, and dozens of churches are in ruin. Our team was based out of a Catholic church

that was wind damaged but still functional. Our three projects were to clean a middle school, remove sheetrock from a preschool, and completely gut a house in the Chalmette area. These were one of the first of their kind in the New Orleans East neighborhood, that had over 94,000 residents before Katrina. By the time that we left, we had accomplished our small tasks. They represent only a drop in a very large bucket. What they did do was to give hope to those the we helped. The goal is to have a school functional by next year so that residents can start to return to the area and rebuild their lives. We were encouraged by the fact that others will follow and complete the work with future missions planned for Christmas, the entire Summer of 2006, and beyond.

Now for the enlightening part. The press and the government are not telling the whole story. With the exception of a recent series of articles by TIME magazine, no one is covering the true issues. There is limited power, scattered pockets of supplies, and barely enough materials and equipment to start re-building. Only about 1 in 5 residents are working on their homes, and in the most hard hit areas 1 in 10. These folks have not seen any money from insurance companies and only \$2,300 from the federal government. They have to commute into their former neighborhoods because of curfews and no local resources. Trash is piled everywhere and only represents a very small portion of the greater whole. There is no help from the federal government except for a small group of FEMA trailers allotted to each community. For example, the community we stayed in represented over 6,000 people, yet they were still waiting for 199 trailers that sleep 4 adults. The only groups that are in the area in mass are the Southern Baptist Kitchens, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army.



Finally, many of you are probably asking yourselves what you can do. One thing you can accomplish is to give money to the American Red Cross or if you want, give directly to the church that we helped. They are really using the money wisely down there. Lastly, you can give your time. Please contact me and I can give you the particulars on volunteering down in the area. The next camp is planned for December 26 through December 31. <http://www.groupworkcamps.com/katrina.asp>. We warn you, it will change your perceptions of the world that you live in.



A big thank you to Faith Community and those who helped make it possible for us to go to New Orleans on their behalf, to bring light into the darkness of the lives of those so devastated by this disaster.

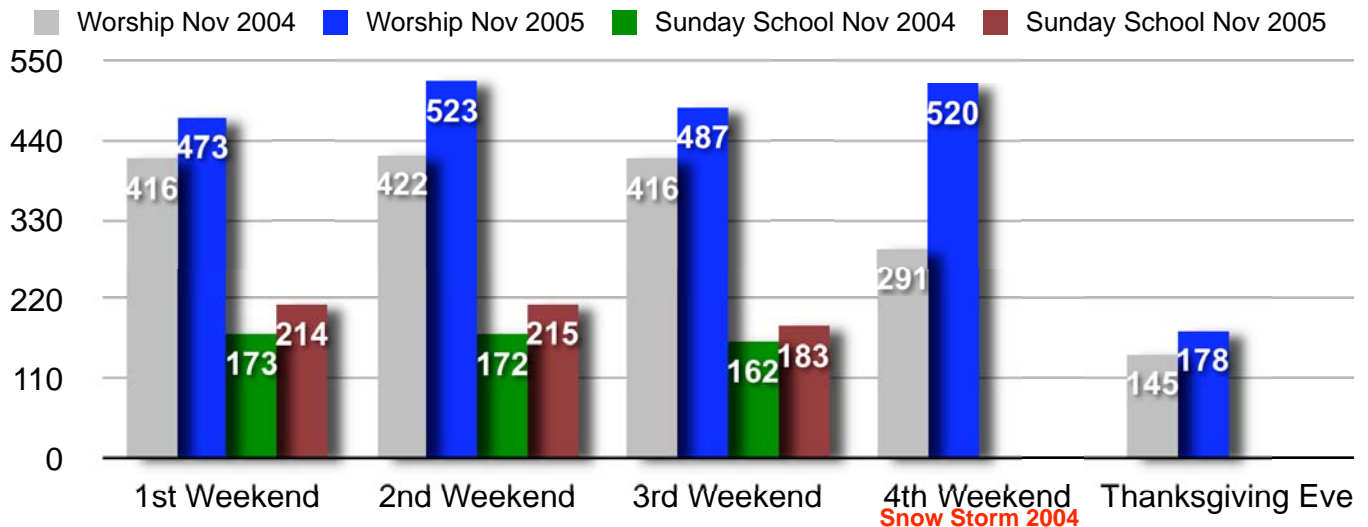
Outreach News

FCLC Outreach is helping to support the Longmont's Holiday Basket Program (HBP). This program provides holiday dinner provisions and toys for low income families in our community. These items will be distributed to the families on Sunday, Dec 18. In the weeks before this, FCLC needs your help in collecting non-perishable boxed desserts (ie. boxed brownies/cookies/pudding, or boxed cake mix with frosting, or pie crust mix with canned filling, etc). Please drop these off in the HBP Collection Basket in the Narthex. Your support is much appreciated. If you'd like more information, see www.stvraincc.org Also, as a part of the HBP program, used/new bikes are needed. If you have any unused bikes laying around your garage, please donate them by dropping them off at High Gear Cyclery, 504 Main St - www.highgearbike.com All bikes will be repaired and given to those in need.



Growing at FCLC – Worship & Sunday School Attendance

Do you realize that we had 2003 worshippers on the four weekends of November 2005, as opposed to 1546 for November 2004? A Difference of 457 Worshipers!



New Council Candidates for 2006-2007

Jill Krantz - President for 2006-2007

Jill and Mike joined Faith Community in 1992, shortly after moving to Longmont. Jill has been involved in various aspects of youth ministry over the years and served on the second pastor call committee. Her husband, Mike, served as the Youth Director at Faith from 2000 to 2001 and currently works at Group Publishing. As the Manager of the Chilson Recreation Center, Jill is involved in promoting health, fitness and recreation in Loveland. Their son, Keenan (11) goes to Westview Middle School, while Kyler (8) goes to Hygiene Elementary. Jill enjoys running, skiing, and taking grounders at third base on the Faith coed softball team.

Nancy Schumacher – Treasurer for 2006-2007

Nancy Passot, husband Raymond Schumacher, and their children Steven (13 yrs) and Dylan (8 yrs) have been official members of the church since March of 2000. Nancy's interests include tennis and volleyball. She became CPA in 1992. She currently works part-time in Boulder

Dale Jurgensmeyer -- Property Co-chair for 2006-2007

Dale and Jane Jurgensmeyer have been member of Faith Community Lutheran since 1990. Their sons, Austin and Eric are students at Longmont High and have been confirmed at FCLC. Daughter Tara is 12 years old, a student at Longs Peak Middle School, and is taking piano lessons. Dale works for Alpharma, and Jane is a nurse at LUH. Dale is an avid sportsman, and has played on the FCLC Men's softball team for many years.

Ron Parsons -- Property Co-chair for 2006-2007

Ron and his family joined FCLC early in 1999. He works at Miltope in Boulder, which manufactures "rugged" computers. Ron and his wife, Denise, have two sons. Travis is 14 years old and goes to Lyons Middle school. Mitchell is 10 years old and goes to school at Hygiene. Ron pitches for the Men's FCLC softball team, and has assisted on the Property Committee for a few years.

Glen Bleeker – Pastoral Care Chair for 2006-2007

Glen and his family moved to Longmont from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in August 2003. They joined Faith Community Lutheran shortly after in October of 2003. Glen works for the Key Corporation. Glen and his wife, Lisa of 23 years have two children. Their daughter, Hillary, is a sophomore at the University of Kansas, and their son, Derrick, is a freshman at Skyline High School. Glen spends his free time with family and is especially involved in his son's many activities.

Joel Rothe – Stewardship Chair for 2006 (finishing Roger Olsen's 2-year-term)

Joel joined Faith Community Lutheran in the mid 1990's. Over the past year, Joel has been involved in the Stewardship committee assisting in various ways. Joel and his wife, Denise, play on the FCLC coed softball team and Joel plays on the men's softball team, as well. One of Joel's hobbies is coaching the varsity baseball team at Northridge High School in Greeley. Joel is employed with the Rothe Financial Group in Longmont.

Roger Olsen – Vice President for 2006 (finishing Jill Krantz' 2-year-term)

Roger and his wife, Cookie, have been members of Faith Community Lutheran since for nearly 20 years. Over the years, Roger has served FCLC in various capacities including the second pastor call, building endowment, and stewardship committee. Roger's career in agri-business spans 34 years. Cookie and Roger have been married for forty-three years and have been blessed with two sons and four grandsons (ranging in age from 15 months to 14 years).

Council Candidates Continued


Rhea Hoops – Education Chair (serving 2nd term)

I am married to Mike and have two daughters, Brittany and Brianna. I am a native to Colorado and this area. I have worked at Organix Supply for 15 years as an administrative accountant. My family and I have been attending Faith Community Lutheran Church for about five years now. I like to teach Sunday School because I learn so much from the kids.

Jesse Demmel – Youth Chair (serving 2nd term)

Jesse and his wife Sarah have been members of Faith Community Lutheran since 2003. They have 2 children, MacKenzie and Grace. Jesse has helped with the youth program since becoming a member. He really enjoys the Youth Program so much that he has volunteered to chair a second term.

Podcasting at FCLC is a Success!!



Put some God in
your pod.

What is Podcasting, you ask? Podcasting is broadcasting recorded media to the ENTIRE WORLD via a Syndicated RSS Feed over the internet! Starting with the Reformation service on 10/30/2005, all of Pastor Dan's and Pastor Bruce's sermons are available in MP3 audio format that **anyone, anywhere** can

"subscribe" to, download, and listen to! **Right at your computer!** Now, anyone in the world will be able to tune-in, listen, and be ministered to by Pastors' Dan and Bruce! You can even download or move the audio versions of the sermons to your iPod or portable MP3 player!

The best way to take advantage of this is to use Apple's iTunes program available for FREE in PC (Windows) & Mac formats at www.apple.com/itunes/download.

Once you have the program installed:

1. Click on Music Store, 2. Then click Podcasting, 3. Then do a search on 'Faith Community Lutheran'. You'll see us come up in the search. 4. Click on the little gray arrow.

Another way to get to these broadcasts, is to go to either of the following websites:

<http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=85953983>

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/fclc> **Put these in your Favorites!! (First link is best)**



Pastor Dan and Pastor Bruce's sermons are added weekly, and are available to be listened to at anytime. You will also find some music selections from the services, as well!! Take a listen, you'll never miss a sermon, lesson, or "flavor" of FCLC again! Last month, **Mollie Goings** was the first person to utilize this, and she listened to Bruce's sermon, while she was at college in Indiana!! Way to go Mollie!! ~ Kirk Olson



Make sure you clip out these handy-dandy boxes and hang them on your fridge, your locker, your dashboard, your forehead, wherever it is you will see them. Wouldn't want you to miss out on anything!!!!

DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

Wednesday the 7th, 7:15 PM—Diving Deep Bible Study

Sunday the 11th, 6:00 PM—Sr. High Youth Group: Stay tuned to email and the web for details and what to bring...we have something planned...tee-hee!

Wednesday the 21st, 7:15 PM—Diving Deep Bible Study

Sunday the 25th—NO YOUTH GROUP. Spend the day with your family! Make a birthday cake for Jesus, sing a song of praise, then EAT THE CAKE!!!

Friday the 30th, MAYBE—There is some talk about a lock-in at First. Anyone want to go and make this a reality? See KRIS, ASAP, to make this event happen!!!

January Youth Calendar

Wednesday the 4th, 7:15 PM—Diving Deep Bible Study

Sunday the 8th, 6:30 PM - Sr. High Youth Group

Wednesday the 18th, 7:15 PM—Diving Deep Bible Study

Friday-Sunday—MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GATHERING, Colorado Springs

Sunday the 22nd, 6:30 PM—Sr. High Youth Group

Sunday the 29th, 12:30 PM—Workcamp Meeting!!!!

NATIONAL GATHERING regular meetings will begin this month! Stay tuned to email and the web for dates and times, or just call Ashleigh. She knows everything. (Almost.)

Personal notes from Cindy and Kris:

"Thanks so much for all the prayers, cards, gifts, and thoughts for me and my family during this hard time!!! You are amazing people, with whom I am blessed." -CINDY

"Thanks for all your support as I transition into 'Student Life!' I will be at my first residential class Jan 2-14. St. Paul, MN, promises to be cold then, but I am already warmed by your friendship and prayers. You are a wonderful community and I am proud to have you as my congregation!!!" - KRIS



Birthdays and Anniversaries

12/03 Tom Hansen
 12/03 Steve Hansen
 12/04 David Koehler
 12/05 Shannon Stewart
 12/05 Colton Gruszczynski
 12/06 Dee Lien
 12/06 Jeffrey Bonds
 12/07 Katlin Kovets
 12/07 Kara Kovets
 12/08 David Enders
 12/08 Pam Lind
 12/09 Judy Heller
 12/09 Sue McCormick
 12/09 Anita Willson
 12/09 Doug Inskeep
 12/09 Ethan Bowers
 12/10 Donna Wormke
 12/10 Brian Greene
 12/11 Jeff Bladt
 12/11 Travis Hunting
 12/13 Geraldine Gies
 12/13 Gena Steele
 12/14 Diane Elwood
 12/14 Nathan Wait
 12/15 Joyce Heimichner
 12/15 Sharon Kaiser
 12/16 Ron Parsons
 12/16 Marcus Cardenas
 12/17 Marci Rothe
 12/17 Ryan Platt
 12/18 Lauren Ward
 12/21 Carole Freeman
 12/24 Veta Hartman
 12/24 Horst Hennig
 12/26 Leonard Rozek
 12/26 Martha Van Gent
 12/26 Valerie Jones
 12/26 Hilary Smallwood
 12/28 Brody Rothe
 12/29 Curt Lewis
 12/30 Joan Schell
 12/30 Robben Roe
 12/31 Colton Vece

01/00 Lucille Ward
 01/01 Bradley Steele
 01/01 Leslie Raymond
 01/01 Lisa Smith
 01/01 Shannon Lovell
 01/01 Corey Bruns
 01/03 Emily Matthias
 01/03 Roger Rankin
 01/03 Gordon Wallace

01/03 Tom Kramer
 01/04 Pat Sharp
 01/04 Chuck Carlson
 01/04 Nicholas Boggess
 01/05 Andrew Mason
 01/06 Bob Alm
 01/06 Mary Smith
 01/07 Karla Irvin
 01/07 Jeff Stamp
 01/07 Rygell Hubert
 01/08 Holly Lehnert
 01/08 Tory Markiewicz
 01/09 Phyllis Holst
 01/10 Gary Adams
 01/10 Jake Carstens
 01/10 Michael Chaney
 01/11 Justin Bachman
 01/11 Nathan Schemmel
 01/11 Jason Irvin
 01/11 Madelyn Thoman
 01/13 Mary Konicek
 01/14 Angie McDermid
 01/15 Amy Magyar
 01/15 Elizabeth Simpson
 01/15 Travis Parsons
 01/16 Nick Lehnert
 01/16 Scott Musser
 01/17 Kaydene Hubert
 01/17 Christian Ney
 01/18 Wilberta Fagler
 01/18 Pamela Liehs
 01/18 David Brown
 01/19 Don Lee
 01/19 Ruth Lerum
 01/19 Grace Demmel
 01/20 Bill Raymond
 01/20 Claire Danos
 01/20 Nash Harper
 01/21 Tony Schaff
 01/22 Kathy Droeger
 01/22 Marissa Ciccone
 01/23 Joel Schell
 01/23 Bob Goings
 01/24 Amanda Platt
 01/25 Evelyn Weston
 01/25 Denise Parsons
 01/26 McKenna Inskeep
 01/27 Rob Baltrum
 01/28 Michael Smith
 01/28 Amanda Endres
 01/28 Raegan Courtemanche
 01/30 Carly Hopp
 01/30 Johnny Mercer
 01/30 Nicholas Knutson



12/03/1983 Jeff Stamp
 12/03/1983 Teresa Stamp
 12/10/1977 Kayla Smith
 12/10/1977 Rob Smith
 12/11/1982 Lisa Smith
 12/11/1982 Michael Smith
 12/15/1973 Anita Willson
 12/15/1973 Perry Willson
 12/18/1965 Harlan Olson
 12/18/1965 Janelle Olson
 12/18/1993 Thelma Olsen-Fosnight
 12/20/1960 Robert Fagler
 12/20/1960 Wilberta Fagler
 12/23/1977 Debbie Polsdofer
 12/23/1977 Larry Polsdofer
 12/26/1984 Mary Lou Urena
 12/27/1980 John Scott Bachman
 12/27/1980 Sue Bachman
 12/27/1986 Mike Cogdill
 12/27/1986 Terri Cogdill
 12/28/1996 Clifford Stewart
 12/29/1963 Carole Freeman
 12/29/1963 Steve Freeman
 12/29/1981 Bob Danos
 12/29/1981 Claire Danos
 12/31/1993 Heidi Johnson
 12/31/1993 Leif Johnson

01/01/1993 Mike Hoops
 01/01/1993 Rhea Hoops
 01/05/1985 Terry Schemmel
 01/05/1988 Laurel Schemmel
 01/09/1984 Diane Vinaske
 01/09/1984 Larry Vinaske
 01/23/1981 Becky Major
 01/23/1981 Mike Major





VIA DE CRISTO

C O L O R A D O



"... But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ..."

Ephesians 4:7, 11-12

Via de Cristo is patterned on Jesus' own example. He searched out and called a small group of potential leaders; He trained them by word and example and inspired them with a vision; He linked them together and sent them out into the world to bring the world to Him.

Via de Cristo is a renewal movement of the church patterned on Jesus' example. Its purpose is to help those in the church understand their individual callings to be Christian Leaders. The leadership may be exercised in work situations, in the family and social life, in leisure activities, and within the Church environment. Leadership, in Via de Cristo, does not mean power over others, but influence on others; all of us need to be aware that we can exert a *positive* influence on those around us.

What is Via de Cristo?

Literally meaning "way of Christ", Via de Cristo is a short course in Christianity that is designed to provide all Christians with a significant foundation for individual and community spiritual growth. Grace and Growth are combined in an exciting and energetic way. At the Via de Cristo the participants become increasingly aware that they are a part of a community abounding in God's grace. The three days are a triple encounter: with Christ; with Christian brothers and sisters; and with a Christian community.

History of Via de Cristo

Via de Cristo originated as the Roman Catholic Cursillo movement which began in Spain in 1948 and moved to America in the late 50's. The first Lutheran-sponsored Cursillos (the early name for Via de Cristo) were held in Miami, Florida in 1971. In addition to

the Roman Catholic and Lutheran movements there are similar expressions in the Methodist, Reformed, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and other Christian churches. Today, more than 2 million Christians in 50 nations have attended a "Cursillo" weekend.

Format of The Weekend

The Via de Cristo weekend is an experience in Christian sharing and living. During the 72-hours, fourteen talks will be presented: Five talks are given by *Lutheran pastors* and nine by lay people. A final talk is given on sponsorship by the lay director. The weekend also includes chapel each morning, communion, small group discussions, sharing, music, singing, laughter, and prayer. The fourteen talks are discussed by the participants and will include a Christian perspective on the following subjects:

- Ideal
- Grace
- Lay People in the Church
- Importance of Study
- A Day in the Life of a Christian
- Apostolic Action
- Obstacles to a Life in Grace
- Christian Actions in the Community

Each of the talks deals with living one's life in God's grace.

Who Goes To Via de Cristo?

Via de Cristo is not designed to convert anyone to Christianity. It is meant for those who are already faithful and committed to Christ and His church. Once again, the goal of Via de Cristo is to encourage Christians in their lives of faith and increase their awareness of grace and service to the Church and the world. During a Via de Cristo weekend, those who have previously attended are called "The Team", and it is their responsibility to serve you in every possible way.

When is Via de Cristo Held?

Weekends in the Colorado movement are generally held three times per year. Men's and Women's weekends are held in March and November, and

a Co-ed weekend is held during June or July.

How Can I Attend Via de Cristo?

Contact the church office, or other members of FCLC who have attended, i.e. Pastor Dan & Cindy, Ed & Diane Broestl, Harlan & Janelle Olson, Kirk Olson, Shea Baker, Wayne & Kaydene Hubert, Ella Lien, Margaret Greene, Monte & Lorna Ott, and Jeanette Wittmer to name a few. In total, more than 40+ members from FCLC have attended a VdC weekend.

What Happens After The Weekend?

The weekend is only a beginning. What you learn and share during the weekend will hopefully be taken back and put into practice in your local congregation and community. You will be supported by many others who have attended a Via de Cristo before or with you. Small groups meet regularly (usually weekly) to affirm one another and to share the Christian life of Grace. These activities inspire, challenge, and encourage Christian action in homes, churches, and communities.

How Much Does The Weekend Cost?

It is our policy to not charge pilgrims (you) for the weekend. It is a gift from God.

May I Go with a Spouse or Friend?

Yes, we strongly recommend that spouses and friends attend a first Via de Cristo weekend together. Marriages and friendships can be strengthened and deepened by the Via de Cristo experience. Fall and Spring Colorado weekends are split into all men and all women weekends, with the men going first. Since 2001, there have been co-ed weekends in the summer. Spouses and friends are also encouraged to serve on teams together.

In Summary

Not everyone who attends a Via de Cristo weekend will receive the same benefit; but all who attend will be blessed, and most will be strengthened in their desire to be a blessing in their churches and Christian communities. www.ColoradoVdC.org

Mission Verse:

God's Spirit is on me:
He chose me to preach the
Message of Good News to the
poor, Sent me to announce
pardon of prisoners and
recovery of sight to the blind,
To set the burdened and
battered free, to announce,
"This is God's year to act!"
Luke 4:18-19

Our Vision:

In each of us burns a flame
so we gather in faith and
hope to reach out in love.



Our Core Values:

To "Reach Out in Love"
as a church that is:

- * Bible Centered
- * Prayer Centered
- * "Blended" Inspirational
Worship
- * Kid Friendly
- * Visitor Friendly
- * Model of the Priesthood of
Believers
- * Model of First Fruits Giving
(to various outreach projects)

Opportunity to participate in New Building Art Project!!

Do you have a favorite cross? Have you wanted to craft one to commemorate a special person or event? The Furnishings Committee is requesting crosses in any medium donated "in memory of," "in honor of" (a person or event), purchased on a memorable trip, or crafted "just be I love Jesus." These will be permanently mounted with a plaque in the new Education wing and will be unveiled at the Dedication. We hope that others will be inspired to contribute over the years. Small monetary donations to defray the cost of the plaques accepted.

See: Carolyn Yanoski (303-651-6562)
Katherine Spencer-Inskeep (303-678-5710)
Laurel Schemmel (303-678-0715)
Marci Rothe (303-682-0695)

Don't know what to get your son or

daughter for Christmas? How about giving them the priceless gift of a week exploring God's creation, developing friendships, having FUN, and growing in their faith at Lutheran Ranches of the Rockies Sky Ranch camp, located west of Ft. Collins. We had 20 kids and Pastor Dan attend last year and hope for a larger group this year. Anyone in grades 4 - 8 can attend. For more information contact Sally Meier at 303-938-8680 or sallymeier@yahoo.com.

Faith Community Lutheran Church, ELCA

Volume 5, Issue No 11

Faith
Community
LUTHERAN ELCA

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Fax: (303) 772-1417

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December 2005

Quest Study Bibles...are coming and will be here by December 11th at the latest. So far, 10 of the 30 have been reserved for purchase. If you would like to add your name to the list, please see Sally Meier or look for the sign-up poster in the Narthex. Cost is \$27, and \$5.50 of this will go toward middle school fundraisers for camp.

All God's People
Everytown, USA